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**(54) FUEL CELL POWER GENERATING SYSTEM AND
ITS OPERATION METHOD**

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To make it possible to lengthen the life and to increase the performance of a fuel cell by installing a device and a method by which oxidizing agent supply shortage is temporarily brought during the operation of a fuel cell.

CONSTITUTION: Cell output controllers 6 are installed in cell stacks $1_1, 1_2, \dots, 1_N$. Flow controllers such as flow regulating valves 7 are installed in oxidizing agent supply lines 5. A controller 8 is arranged between the cell output controllers, the flow regulating valves 7 and a load current detector 3. A specific cell stack 1_1 of a series stack 1 is temporarily brought in an oxidizing agent shortage state during the operation of the series stack 1 without a decrease in load current of the series stack 1. By this process, the deterioration in cell performance with the passage of time is retarded and cell performance is increased.

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